

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending. Claims 10-20 have been added. No new matter has been added.

The drawings were objected to, in particular figure 5, as not complying with 37 CFR 1.84(o). Figure 5 has been corrected to include descriptive legends.

Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 8 has been amended which should obviate this rejection.

Claims 1-3, 5-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Zlokolica, et al., "Video Denoising Using Multiple Class Averaging with Multiresolution." Claims 1-3 and 5-9 include the features of temporally filtering one or more of the slices for differently filtering the slices according to the content, wherein one or more high frequency slices are filtered at a greater rate than one or more low frequency slices. Zlokolica does not disclose or suggest this feature of claims 1-3 and 5-9. Zlokolica is directed to a denoising process that utilizes multiple class averaging. Zlokolica divides the image into four separate bands that are "specifically tuned to the properties of each of the subbands." (Zlokolica p. 5). Zlokolica describes "noise [being] less reduced in case of bigger spatial detail, [which] is not a problem: such regions contain high spatial frequencies and [] the human eye is not very sensitive to those frequencies anyway." (Zlokolica p. 3).

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zlokolica, et al. in view of Brailean, et al. ("Noise Reduction: Filters for Dynamic Image sequence: A Review"). Claim 4 depends from claim 1 and includes the feature of a controller to temporally filter one or more of the slices for differently filtering the slices according to the content, wherein one or more high frequency slices are filtered at a greater rate than one or more low frequency slices. As described above, Zlokolica fails to

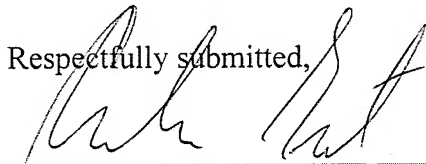
disclose or suggest this feature. Brailean is directed to the use of motion compensation in combination with various spatiotemporal and temporal noise reduction algorithms. Brailean does not disclose or suggest the feature of claim 4 of a controller to temporally filter one or more of the slices for differently filtering the slices according to the content, wherein one or more high frequency slices are filtered at a greater rate than one or more low frequency slices.

Claims 10-20 depend from claims 7 and 8, respectively and are also patentable over the cited art and combination of art.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the specification, the drawings and all claims presented in this application are currently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and that this application be passed to allowance.

Should any changes to the claims and/or specification be deemed necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to discuss the same.

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Respectfully submitted, 

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